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97TH CONGRESS
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SENATE

REPORT
No. 97-639

QUINCENTENARY OF THE VOYAGES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

SEPTEMBER 29 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 8), 1982.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2580]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 2580) a bill to establish the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission to plan, encourage, coordinate, and conduct the commemoration of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill (as amended) do pass.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of S. 2580 is to establish the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission. The mandate of this 31 member Commission is to plan, encourage, coordinate, and conduct the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus.

II. COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

S. 2580 was introduced by Senator Mathias on May 26, 1982, and was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill was later cosponsored by Senators D'Amato, Domenici, Sarbanes, Schmitt, and Leahy.

In response to concerns expressed by Senators Thurmond and Grassley, several changes were made in the bill before it was considered by the Committee. In response to a concern that the length of the Commission's tenure was too long, the bill was changed to

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provide that the Commissioners shall be appointed by October 1, 1983, and take office on that date, thus shortening the time frame of the Commission by almost a year. As originally drafted, the bill provided that members were to be appointed and take office within 90 days of enactment of the Act. Furthermore, the Commission's expected life was shortened by another five and one-half months by requiring that the Commission submit its final report to Congress on November 15, 1992, instead of April 30, 1993.

Another concern regarding the bill was the lack of specific authorization levels. The open-ended authorization was stricken from the bill, and specific authorization levels were inserted. The bill, as reported, authorizes $200,000 for fiscal year 1984, and $250,000 for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1985 and ending at the end of fiscal year 1992. In addition, the bill authorizes $50,000 to be appropriated for the period beginning on October 1, 1992, and ending November 15, 1992. This latter amount is needed by the Commission to close out its operations and write its final report.

To conform the rest of the bill to these amendments, it became necessary to make additional changes. Because the Commissioners now take office on October 1, 1983, instead of 90 days after enactment of the Act, the Commission is required to submit a comprehensive report to Congress incorporating its recommendations for the commemoration of the quincentenary by October 1, 1985. Originally the bill had called for the report to be submitted two years after enactment. This conforming amendment retains that two year period.

Similarly, the bill now allows the Commission to convene a national assembly to make recommendations to the Commission before October 1, 1984. This conforming amendment retains the one year timeframe for convening a national assembly contemplated by the original draft.

On September 21, 1982, the Judiciary Committee considered the bill and ordered it to be reported, as amended, by unanimous consent.

III. DISCUSSION

October 12, 1992, will mark the 500th anniversary—the quincentenary—of the day land was sighted by one of the ships sailing on Christopher Columbus' maiden voyage to find a westward passage to the Orient. Of course, he didn't find such a passage—he found a New World. His contemporaries neither appreciated nor acknowledged the enormous contribution Columbus had made to the expansion of European civilization, and to the creation of a new one. The Committee believes that the American people, the ultimate beneficiaries of his vision, courage, and travail, must see that the memory of Columbus and his achievement does not suffer the same result in 1992 as it did in his lifetime. After all, Columbus' voyages of discovery, taken as a whole, might very well be the greatest event in the history of the secular world.

Although the anniversary is still 10 years away, the Committee believes that it is not too soon to begin to plan for the observance of such an unprecedented event—the birthday of the New World. The Committee is convinced that the Federal government must do

all it can to see that this anniversary is observed appropriately and thoughtfully. A celebration of the dimensions the Committee contemplates dictates that the Federal government play a role. Toward this end, S. 2580 would establish the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission.

The Commission would be charged with planning, encouraging, coordinating, and conducting local, national, and international observances and activities. Its 31 members, most of whom would be private citizens, would be responsible for preparing comprehensive programs to commemorate the quincentenary of the voyages Columbus embarked on in 1492. Books, films, lectures, exhibits, ceremonies, and all manner of celebrations would be planned and coordinated by the Commission. The Commission would work in conjunction with State, local and foreign governments public agencies, and private organizations to plan the 1992 celebration. The Committee stresses the importance of working and consulting with private organizations and local governments in planning for the quincentenary.

The Committee also believes that a particularly important aspect of the observance must be to consult and work with our friends and neighbors in other nations of the Western Hemisphere who share with us the Columbian legacy, and whose heritage of culture, scholarship, and creative art can contribute so much to the value and significance of the event. Such common interests will, in the process, underscore the common heritage of the Western Hemisphere. Early invitations should be issued to Italy and Spain who deserve, and will surely wish, a special role in our observance as they plan their own.

IV. SECTION-BY-SECTION AS AMENDED

Section 1

Section 1 states that the Act may be cited as the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Act.

Section 2

Section 2 states that it is the policy of the Congress to celebrate and commemorate the 500th anniversary of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus through local national and international observances and activities planned, encouraged, coordinated, conducted by a national commission.

Section 3

Section 3(a) establishes a commission to be known as the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission.

Section 3(b) sets forth the composition of the Commission. The Commission will consist of 31 members, as follows: four Members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; four Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; 18 private citizens appointed by the President of the United States, no more than nine of whom may be identified with any one political party; the Secretary of State; the Secretary of the Interior; the Librarian of Congress; the Secretary

of the Smithsonian Institution; and the Chairman of the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities.

Section 3(c) states that the Secretary of the Interior shall call the first meeting of the Commission to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman from among the members of the Commission. The Commission may appoint honorary members, and may establish an Advisory Council to help the Commission in its work.

Section 3(d) states that the members of the Commission shall be appointed by October 1, 1983, and that they shall take office on that date.

Section 4

Section 4(a) states that it is the duty of the Commission to prepare of a comprehensive program for the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus. The Commission is to plan, coordinate, encourage, and conduct observances and activities commemorating events which took place primarily in 1492.

Section 4(b) allows the Commission to convene a national assembly not later than October 1, 1984 to make recommendations to the Commission.

Section 4(c) directs the Commission to submit a comprehensive report incorporating its recommendations for the commemoration of the quincentenary of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus to Congress by October 1, 1985.

The report shall include recommendations for (1) the production of books, films, pamphlets, and other educational materials regarding the culture, history, and political thought of the lands Columbus visited during his voyages, (2) bibliographical and documentary projects and publications, (3) conferences, seminars, and other similar programs, (4) the development of libraries, museums, and exhibits, (5) ceremonies and celebrations honoring specific events, (6) programs focusing on the international significance of Columbus' voyages, and (7) the issuance of commemorative stamps, coins, and medals.

The report shall also include recommendations for the allocation of financial and administrative responsibilities among the public agencies and private organizations designated for participation by the Commission. Moreover, the report shall include recommendations for whatever legislative and administrative action the Commission deems necessary to carry out the commemoration of Columbus' voyages.

Section 4(d) directs the Commission to submit to Congress an annual report of its activities.

Section 4(e) makes it clear that the Commission, in preparing its plans and programs, must consider any related plans and programs developed by State, local, and foreign governments, and private groups.

Section 4(f) states that the Commission is authorized to invite representatives of public agencies and private organizations to help the Commission in carrying out its duties under this section.

Section 5

Section 5 sets out additional functions the Commission is authorized to undertake to increase public awareness of, and interest in, the quincentenary.

Section 6

Section 6(a) directs the Commission to consult and seek advice and assistance from appropriate Federal agencies, State and local governments, foreign governments, learned societies, and historical, patriotic, philanthropic, civic, professional, and related organizations. Such appropriate Federal departments and agencies are requested to cooperate with the Commission.

Section 6(b) directs the Secretary of State to conduct a study of appropriate cooperative actions which might be taken with foreign governments to preserve and develop historic sites related to Columbus' voyages so that appropriate observances may be held at such sites. In particular, the Secretary of State shall consult with the governments of nations in the Western Hemisphere which share the Columbian heritage and with the governments of Spain and Italy about joint participation in events in the United States and in those countries. The Secretary shall submit the results of this study to the Commission.

Section 6 (c) directs the Chairman of the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities to cooperate with the Commission.

Section 6 (d) directs the Librarian of Congress, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and the Archivist of the United States to cooperate with the Commission.

SECTION 7

Section 7 (a) authorizes the Commission to accept donations of money, property, or personal services.

Section 7 (b) states that all printed material, relics, and memorabilia donated to the Commission may be deposited in libraries and museums across the country.

Section 8

Section 8 (a) state that the Chairman of the Commission, with the advice of the Commission, shall appoint a Director and a Deputy Director. They will serve at the pleasure of the Chairman. The Director will be compensated at level IV of the Executive Schedule and the Deputy Director will be compensated at level V of the same schedule. The Commission will delegate those powers and duties to the Director as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Commission.

Section 8 (b) authorizes the Commission to hire additional personnel, but they may not be paid at a rate higher than the maximum rate for GS–18 on the General Schedule. The Commission is also authorized to appoint advisory committees, to procure services pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, to procure supplies and property, and to make contracts. Moreover, the Com-

mission may enter into agreements with GSA for the procurement of necessary financial and administrative services.

Section 9

Section 9 states that the members of the Commission will not be compensated for their services to the Commission, but they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

Section 10

Section 10 states that when the Commission has published in the Federal Register a notification of certification of logos, symbols, and marks for use in connection with the quincentenary, any person who knowingly reproduces, manufactors, or uses such logos, symbols, and marks without the authorization of the Commission shall be fined not more than $250, or imprisoned not more than six months.

Section 11

Section 11(a) authorizes $200,000 for fiscal year 1984 and $250,000 for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1985 and ending at the end of fiscal year 1992. Furthermore, $50,000 are authorized for the period beginning on October 1, 1992, and November 15, 1992.

Section 11(b) states that the amount appropriated for any fiscal year shall remain available until November 15, 1992.

Section 12

Section 12(a) provides that the Commission will terminate on November 15, 1992, at which time the Commission shall submit a final report to Congress.

Section 12(b) provides that any property acquired by the Commission remaining after its termination may be used by the Secretary of the Interior for purposes of the National Park Service, or may be disposed of pursuant the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949.

V. REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

In compliance with paragraph 11(b), rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee finds that the implementation of S. 2580, as reported, will not result in increased regulation. S. 2580, as reported, establishes the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission plan, encourage, coordinate, and conduct the commemoration of the voyages of discovery of Christopher Columbus. The only authority granted this commemorative commission to issue rules or regulations permits issuance of appropriate rules or regulations to govern the use of any logos, symbol, or marks chosen and certified by the Commission for use in connection with the commemoration of the quincentenary. This will not impose affirmative duties upon state or private entities, but only govern or condition use of the quincentenary logos, sybmols, or marks.

VI. COST OF LEGISLATION

In accordance with paragraph 11, rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee offers the Report of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., September 28, 1982.

Hon. STROM THURMOND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to Section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has prepared the attached cost estimate for S. 2580, the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Act.

Should the Committee so desire, we would be pleased to provide further details on this estimate.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND SCHEPPACH
(For Alice M. Rivlin, Director).

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE—COST ESTIMATE

SEPTEMBER 28, 1982.

1. Bill No.: S. 2580.
2. Bill title: Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Act.
3. Bill status: As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, September 21, 1982.
4. Bill purpose: The bill establishes the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission to plan and conduct a commemoration of the voyages of Christopher Columbus. The bill authorizes the appropriation of $200,000 for fiscal year 1984, $250,000 in each year from fiscal year 1985 through fiscal year 1992, and $50,000 for the period between October 1, 1992 and November 15, 1992 for carrying out the provisions of the bill. The Commission is authorized to accept donations. The bill also requires certain departments and agencies of the federal government to provide assistance to the Commission.
5. Cost estimate:

[By fiscal years, in thousands of dollars]

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Estimated authorization level		200	250	250	250
Estimated outlays		180	245	250	250

The costs of this bill fall within budget function 800.

6. Basis of estimate: This estimate assumes the amount authorized will be appropriated. The estimate of outlays is based on historical spending patterns for similar commissions. This estimate does not include costs of activities that will be required of several departments and agencies of the federal government because the extent of their activities has not been determined.

7. Estimate comparision: None.
8. Previous CBO estimate: None.
9. Estimate prepared by: Judy Walker.
10. Estimate approved by: C. G. Nuckols, for James L. Blum Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

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